spam

spam *BrE* [spæm] ˈ   *NAmE* [spæm] ˈ   noun uncountable

1. Spam™ finely chopped cooked meat that has been pressed together in a container, usually sold in cans and served cold in slices

2. (informal) advertising material sent by email to people who have not asked for it

compare ↑junk mail, ↑spim

Word Origin:

[**spam**] 1930s: apparently from sp(iced h)am. The Internet sense appears to derive from a sketch by the British "Monty Python" comedy group, set in a cafe in which every item on the menu includes spam.

Culture:

Spam is made mainly from **ham** and was widely used to feed US soldiers during the ↑Second World War, when it also became popular in Britain. It is still popular in the US today but less so in Britain. The word is a shortened form of 'spiced ham'. Because it is a simple and cheap food, people often make jokes about it and a Monty Python sketch was set in a cafe where every item on the menu included Spam. This may be the origin of the modern use of the word to mean unwanted emails.

Collocations:

Email and the Internet

Email

receive /get/open an email

write /send/answer/forward/delete an email

check/read /access your email

block/filter (out) junk/spam/unsolicited email

exchange email addresses

open /check your inbox

junk mail **fills/floods/clogs** your inbox

have /set up an email account

open /send/contain an attachment

sign up for/receive email alerts

Connecting to the Internet

use/access/log onto the Internet/the Web

go online/on the Internet

have a high-speed/dial-up/broadband/wireless (Internet) connection

access/connect to/locate the server

use/open/close/launch a/your web browser

browse/surf/search/scour the Internet/the Web

send/contain/spread/detect a (computer/email) virus

update your anti-virus software

install/use/configure a firewall

accept/enable /block/delete cookies

Using the Internet

visit/check a website/an Internet site/sb's blog

create /design/launch a website/social networking site

start/write/post/read a blog

update your blog/a website

be in/meet sb in/go into/enter an Internet chat room

download /upload music/software/a song/a podcast/a file/a copy of sth

share information/data/files

post a comment/message on a website/an online message board/a web forum/an internet chat room

stream video/audio/music/content over the Internet

join/participate in/visit/provide a (web-based/web/online/Internet/discussion) forum

generate /increase/monitor Internet traffic

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spam

I. **spam**[1] /spæm/ *BrE* ˈ   *AmE* ˈ   *verb* (*past tense and past participle* **spammed**, *present participle* **spamming**) [intransitive and transitive]

[Date: 1900-2000; Origin: Probably from Spam]

to send the same message to many different people using email or the Internet, usually as a way of advertising something – used to show disapproval

—spamming *noun* [uncountable]

—spammer *noun* [countable]

II. **spam**[2] *BrE* ˈ   *AmE* ˈ   *noun* [uncountable]

email messages that a computer user has not asked for and does not want to read, for example from someone who is advertising something:

ˈ   You can filter out spam with special software.

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spam

12500 **8256**MCW

15000 **7285**COCA

RANGE: **8k** SPAM [1450]

  spam [1123]

  spams [12]

  spammed [17]

  spamming [47]

  spammer [56]

  spammers [195]

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

  [375]**19640**[1123] *nn1*